IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARY OFFICE

Egoup Art Unit 3679

In re

Patent Application of

Andrew J. Whitton, et al.

Application No. 10/085,649

Confirmation No.: 8642

Filed: February 26, 2002

Examiner: Ryan M. Flandro

"SHAFT ASSEMBLY SAFETY

MECHANISM"

I, Mary A. Azzolina, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date of my signature.

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR §1.97(d)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 RECEIVED
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Sir:

The Examiner's attention is directed to the reference listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and a copy of which is attached. Citation of this reference is respectfully requested.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(d) and (e)(1), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing hereof. A copy of the European Search Report is enclosed.

With respect to the foreign language document, an English language translation is not readily available. The currently understood relevance of the document is that set forth in the European Search Report. Applicants will provide a translation if the examiner requires such.

No concession is made that the document is prior art, and Applicants expressly reserve the right to antedate the document as may be appropriate.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 09-0260 with the fees associated with this communication. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn M. Massina Reg. No. 40,081

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